

Martin Roberts  
16022 Parthenia St.  
Sepulveda, CA 91343  
818-893-4094

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Chair, Awards Committee  
The New York Academy of Sciences  
2 East 63rd St.  
New York, NY 10021.

Dear Sirs:

Mr. Ramon Duarte has asked me to write a letter of recommendaton relative to his nomination for his contributions to effect an earthquake preparedness program during the Armenian earthquake disaster. I am pleased to have this opportunity.

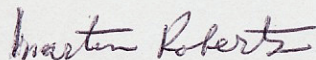
I first became involved in eathquake preparedness as a member of Task Force One which had been organized by Mr Duarte. This committee made many recommendations outlined in the article entitiled "Seismic Risks in Nephrology" written by Mr. Duarte. On the basis of the committee's discussions I have continued to try to solve some of the unique problems of the chronic and acute renal failure patient during a major disaster.

For the chonic patient I have devised a diet and demonstrated that with this diet the end stage renal failure patient can forgo dialysis for a week. Thereby, maintaining the patient at home while his further care was being arranged by the nephrology community. An abstract of this research is enclosed and further work is in progress.

During the deliberations of Task Force One, I suggested that acute renal failure patients resulting from a disaster could be dialyzed without any equipment or power, and with a few liters of water. I have demonstrated how this can be done in the enclosed publication and am now organizing a clinical investigation in the acute renal failure patient.

Without Mr. Duarte's inspiration all of these investigations would never have been initiated. Therefore, I can highly recommend Mr. Duarte for his contributions to earthquake preparedness.

Sincerely yours,



Martin Roberts, Ph.D.